



SAINT PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

Dear Saint Patrick,

As I sit here preparing to write this letter, I am in awe of how I am now a senior preparing to graduate. These last four years have gone by in the blink of an eye. I can still see myself as the little fourteen year old who was extremely excited and nervous about beginning the next four years of my life. I often thought about the potential struggle to make new friends and play sports at the next level, but I was extremely excited to go to Saint Pats and to take on these challenges with the help of all the new people I would meet. I will do my best to try and describe the best four years of my life. As a young fourteen year old, I was not sure where I wanted to go. I have an older brother who attended Saint Pats so it was this plus attending the Notre Dame vs Saint Pats game my eighth grade year that convinced me this was where I wanted to spend the next four years.

I have learned over the last four years at Saint Pats that it is the tradition and brotherhood that makes it the best school in the world. Through my meetings with students of Saint Pats present and past, I have been reaffirmed that we all feel the extreme love that this brotherhood brings. I have seen many examples of brotherhood but none greater than the relationships I have made here. I have been an underclassman and had older students watch out for me and help me through my time here. I am now a senior and I do my best to look out for those who were in the position I was in as a freshman. Whether it was leading Kairos retreats, playing baseball, or being there to cheer for all the football games, I believe the Shamrock brotherhood has truly changed me and the trajectory of my life. I feel honored and thankful to have gotten to spend the last four years in this building, and now I have more brothers than I can count. With my time at Saint Pats coming to an end, I look back and am filled with joy from how Saint Patrick afforded me the opportunity to meet so many amazing people from all walks of life. As cliché as it sounds, this school has given me one of the best families anyone could ever ask for. This is a family that truly looks out for you.

As I get ready to take on the life of becoming a man and being independent, I realize the importance and magnitude of the lessons Saint Patrick has taught me. Although extremely important to me, I do not mean the small things I was taught here. For example, reading Animal Farm and dissecting literature in Ms. Robinson's class, Coach Jewel explaining the inner workings of our government, or Mr. P making math my new favorite subject, I have been taught resilience and to work hard in all aspects of my life. I have learned to think for myself, how to take care of myself, be my own man, and how to take care of myself. Almost everything I hope to carry on with me into my adult life stems from the lessons learned at Saint Pats. It is the life changing impacts of the administrators like Coach Csongradi, Coach Fabrizio, Coach Galante, and teachers that make Saint Pat's so much more than just a school. They make it a home where we are comfortable and able to grow our minds, faith, and morals. It is not easy to admit that my career here is over but I know I must move on. Luckily, I believe that Saint Pat's and the lessons I've learned here will lead me to continue making good choices in the future and to find success.

Farewell Saint Patrick, there is nothing left to do but give thanks; to thank you for giving me some of the best role models in my life. Thank you for giving me the absolute best friends I could ever ask to have. And thank you for developing me into the man that I am today. You have been my home for the last four years and I cannot wait to follow the amazing Shamrocks who will walk these halls after me and to see you shape them into fine young men just as you have done with me.

Sincerely,

Patrick Heisler '23